STATUS REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1988

Alberta
EDUCATION
Curriculum
Support

ORGANIZATION OF THE CURRICULUM SUPPORT BRANCH
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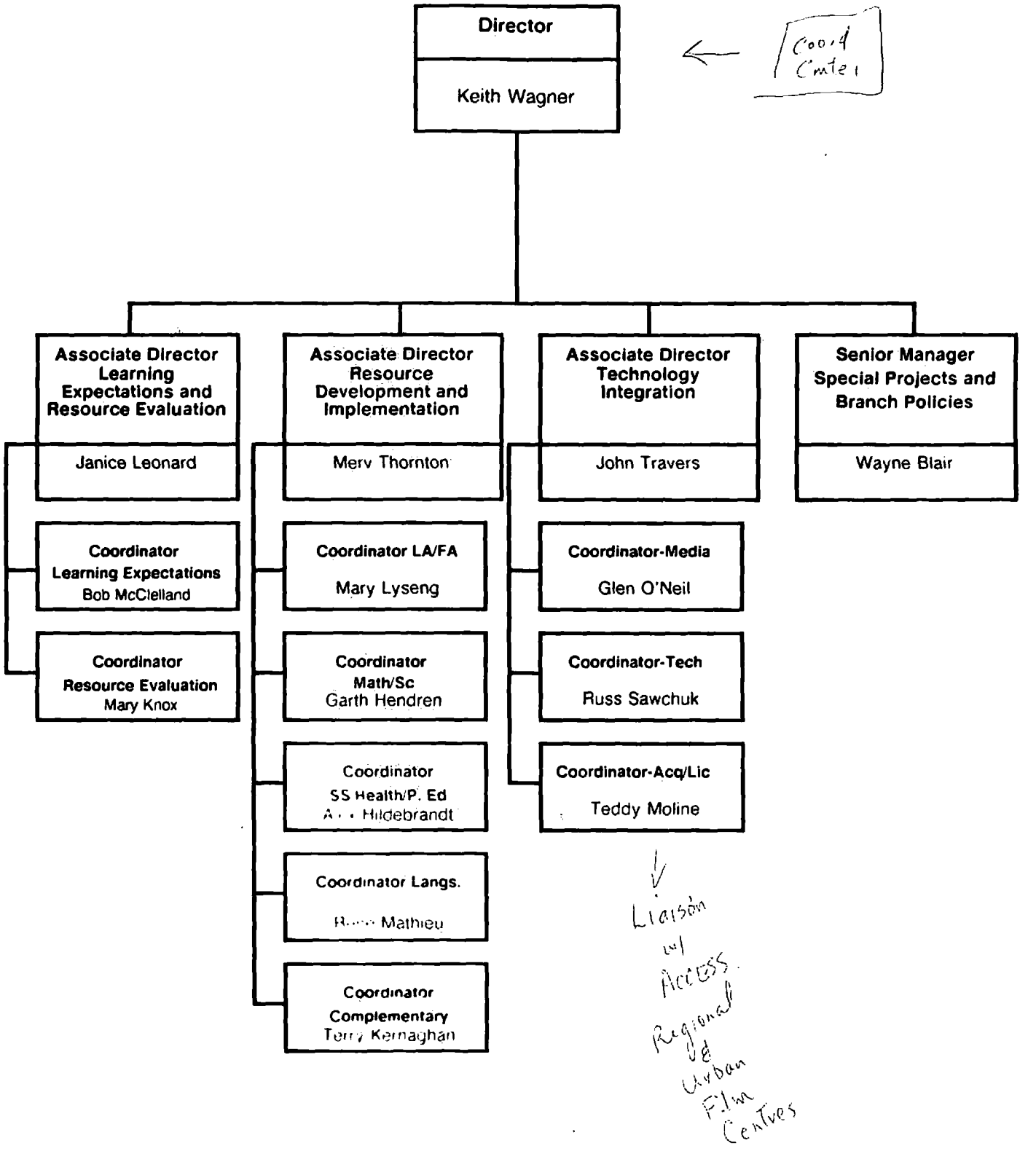

MISSION OF THE CURRICULUM SUPPORT BRANCH

To ensure the best possible education for Alberta students by providing leadership and direction in the validation of curricular programs and in the design, development, acquisition, and implementation of integrated learning and teaching resources.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTS PREPARED BY THE CURRICULUM SUPPORT BRANCH

The Curriculum Support Branch is in the process of developing definitions and guidelines for the documents which are prepared by the Branch. Following is a list of Curriculum Support Branch documents with the tentative guidelines which are currently being followed:

1. Teacher Resource Manuals

A teacher resource manual is designed to help teachers implement a course or program of studies (e.g. Junior High School Mathematics). These manuals contain some or all of the following information:

- effective teaching strategies and skills
- student learning styles
- learning resources
- child development
- program planning
- facilities
- student evaluation
- sample unit and lesson plans
- annotated bibliography of professional resources

2. Monographs

A monograph is a teacher support document designed to provide in-depth information to assist curriculum developers or to help teachers implement a specific aspect of a course or a program of studies. Example documents are:

- Students' Thinking: Developmental Framework: Cognitive Domain
- Students' Interactions: Social Sphere
- Catalogue of Essential Concepts, Skills, and Attitudes

3. Position Papers

A position paper is designed to communicate a specific policy or direction that the Curriculum Support Branch advocates. Some position papers request reaction from education stakeholders and others guide changes in the Alberta education system. Example documents are:

- Visions 2000: A Vision of Educational Technology in Alberta by the Year 2000
- A Strategic Plan for Microcomputers in Schools
- A Policy Statement on the Articulation of Children's Learning Experiences
- Focus on Learning

4. Workshop Leader Guide

A workshop leader's guide is designed to help implementation leaders inservice groups of teachers with respect to a program of studies or part of a program of studies. These guides contain some or all of the following information:

- implementation strategies
- learning resources
- the "how" or "why" of programs or policies
- presentation suggestions
- minimum skill lists and goals
- pre–requisite requirements

An example is "The Writing Process Using the Word Processor: Workshop Manual".

5. Learning Resource Listings

A learning resource listing is an evaluated listing of learning resources recommended for use in Alberta schools. Examples are:

- MECC Reviewers' Choices
- Computer Courseware Evaluations

SUPPORT DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR 1988–89

1. Learning Expectations and Resource Evaluation Unit

- Publication and distribution of *Students' Interactions: Social Sphere*, and *Students' Physical Growth: Physical Dimension*; validation of new and revised programs in terms of this framework; orientation and inservice on *Developmental Framework*.

- Development, publication and distribution of *Interrelationships Among the Domains*; and ongoing orientation and inservice on this aspect of the *Developmental Framework*.

- Publication of the *Elementary Catalogue of Essential Concepts, Skills and Attitudes*; validation of programs under revision and development in terms of this *Catalogue*: orientation and inservice to *Catalogue*.

- Establishment of criteria for the validation of curricular documents and teacher support documents, according to developmental appropriateness, essential learnings, and thinking skills; and the subsequent validation of curriculum as recuired.

- Reformatting and improvement of CEIMA forms; redrafting of resource analysis procedures: simplification of report formats.

- Development of a position paper related to the integration of thinking skills in curriculum design.
- Draft, publication and distribution of a monograph regarding the integration of thinking skills into the curriculum
- Draft, publication and distribution to schools of a Teaching Thinking monograph.
- Planning, data entry, and implementation of an Authorized Learning Resources Database.
- Evaluation of learning resources as required by Curriculum Design, Language Services, Resource Development and Implementation Unit, and Alberta Correspondence School (for distance education learning packages).
- Development of Program Continuity (ECS – Grade 6) resource materials for teachers.
- Identification and publicizing of a Program Continuity (ECS – Grade 6) Innovation Site.

2. Resource Development and Implementation Unit

2.1 Elementary

Print Resources

- Music Curriculum Guide
- Social Studies Teacher Resource Manual (ECS – Grade 3)
- Elementary Health (Child Abuse Unit)
- Teacher Resource Manual for Language Arts *Diversity in Communication* video series
- Social Studies Teacher Resource Manual (Grades 4 – 6)
- Computers in Elementary Schools Monograph (including French translation/adaptation)
- Social Studies Teaching Units (ECS – Grade 6; including French and Ukrainian translation/adaptations)
- Elementary Language Arts Teacher Resource Manual

Media Resources

- Inservice Slide Set for Art
- Social Studies Video Inservice (ECS – Grade 12)
- Diversity in Communication Video Series (ECS – Grade 6)
- Native Imagery in Art Video (ECS – Grade 6)

2.2 Junior High

Print Resources

- Drama Teacher Resource Manual
- Physical Education Curriculum Guide (French)
- Mathematics Teacher Resource Manual and Curriculum Guide (including French translation/adaptation)
- Science Teacher Resource Manual (including French translation/adaptation)
- Home Economics Curriculum Guide and Teacher Resource Manual (French translation/adaptation)
- Computer Literacy Teacher Resource Manual
- Agriculture Teacher Resource Manual
- Integrated Occupational Programs Teacher Resource Manual
- Ethics Teacher Resource Manual
- Ethics Student Learning packages (Distance Education Initiative)

Media Resources

- Social Studies Video Inservice (ECS – Grade 12)
- Secondary Physical Education Inservice re: Handicapped Students

2.3 Senior High

Print Resources

- Social Studies 10–13, 20–23 and 30–33 Teacher Resource Manuals and Implementation Packages (including French translation/adaptation)
- Mathematics 10–13–14 Teacher Resource Manuals and Monographs
- Science 14–24 and 10 Teacher Resource Manuals and Implementation Packages
- Drama 10–20–30 Teacher Resource Manual
- Career and Life Management 20 Curriculum Guide (French translation/adaptation)
- Language Arts 10–20–30 and 13–23–33 Teacher Resource Manuals and Monographs
- Integrated Occupational Programs 16 Teacher Resource Manual
- Art 11–21–31 Student Learning packages (Distance Education Initiative)

- Mathematics 10–14–24 Supervisor's manual (Distance Education Initiative)
- Mathematics Statistics Monograph (Distance Education Initiative)
- Mathematics Problem Solving Monograph (Distance Education Initiative)
- Social Studies Supervisor's Manual (Distance Education Initiative)
- General Science Student Learning Packages (Distance Education Initiative)
- General Science Supervisor Manuals (2) (Distance Education Initiative)

Media Resources

- Career and Life Management 20 Video Inservice
- Social Studies Video Inservice (ECS – Grade 12)
- Secondary Physical Education Inservice re: Handicapped Students
- Art Resource Kit (Distance Education Initiative)
- Mathematics Resource Kit (Distance Education Initiative)
- Social Studies Resource Kit (Distance Education Initiative)
- General Science Resource Kit (Distance Education Initiative)

2.4 Second Languages

Print Resources

- Communicative Approach to Second Languages Teaching Monograph (Grades 4 – 6)
- Student Evaluation in Immersion and First Languages Monograph (ECS – Grade 6)
- Student Evaluation in Second Languages Monograph (Grades 4– 6)
- English as a Second Language Resource Manual (ECS – Grade 6)
- Sociocultural Values Monograph (French, ECS – Grade 6)
- French Language Arts Teacher Resource Manuals and Implementation Package (Grades 7 – 12)
- English as a Second Language Guidelines Monograph
- Communicative Approach to Second Language Teaching Monograph (Grades 7 – 12)
- Student Evaluation in Second Languages Monograph (Grades 7 – 12)
- Student Evaluation in Immersion and French Language Monograph (Grades 7 – 12)
- Sociocultural Values Monograph (Grades 7 – 10)

- English as a Second Language Resource Manual (Grade 7 – 12)
- Teaching Literature in General Monograph (French, Grades 7 – 12)

Media Resources

- Health audiotapes (French, ECS – Grade 3)
- English as a Second Language Kit to assist in the implementation of Junior High guidelines
- Second Language Implementation video (revised program)
- French Language Arts audio tapes (Elementary and Secondary)
- French Language Arts video inservice (Secondary)

3. Technology Integration Unit

- Development of a provincial plan for the provision of film and video resources (including a new role for Regional Film Centres)
- Implementation of new MECC agreement
- Development of a strategy and policy position on the appropriate integration of technology in education
- Production of integration manual for the Technology in Education Initiative
- Continuing review of areas for potential applications of technology into the curriculum and, in cooperation with other Units of the Curriculum Support Branch, the development of the necessary resource materials
- Redesign and expand the coacquisition of film and video resources initiative with a focus on curriculum fit and coacquisition renewals
- Continued leadership to school libraries by providing support for the standards outlined in *Focus on Learning*; continued application of technology to address library needs (e.g., networking)
- Completion of the School Library Resources Survey
- Development or acquisition of a resource package for students on information strategies which will continue the process set in motion in *Focus on Learning*
- Negotiation and purchase of provincial software licenses
- Identification and publicizing of "Innovation Sites" throughout the province
- Distribution of "Writing Process Using the Word Processor" teacher resource materials to schools; project implementation; a second workshop; evaluation of teacher resource materials; ongoing newsletter and follow–up

- Develop computer assisted instructional courseware for Senior High School Mathematics (Distance Education Initiative)

- Acquire licenses and/or distribution rights to software and video required to support the distance education student courseware development initiatives (Distance Education Initiative)

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

ACCESS - Alberta Educational Communications Corporation
ACOTE - Advisory Committee on Teacher Education
AFHSA - Alberta Federation of Home and School Associations
ARA - Annual Representative Assembly
ASAA - Alberta Schools' Athletic Association
ASEBP - Alberta School Employees' Benefit Plan
ASTA - Alberta School Trustees' Association
BRSAA - Battle River School Authorities Association
BVSAA - Bow Valley School Authorities Association
CAFEC - Calgary Area Field Experiences Committee
CASS - Conference of Alberta School Superintendents
COATS - Council on Alberta Teaching Standards
CRTPA - Committee on Revision of the Teaching Profession Act
CTF - Canadian Teachers' Federation
DR - District Representative
EAFEC - Edmonton Area Field Experiences Committee
ECRS - Education Conditions Review Service
EISAA - Elk Island School Authorities Association
EPC - Economic Policy Committee
FMSAA - Fort McMurray School Authorities Association
GETCA - Greater Edmonton Teachers' Convention Association
LAFEC - Lethbridge Area Field Experiences Committee
LCO - Local Communications Officer
LTD - Long Term Disability
MS - Member Services
NCESAA - North Central East School Authorities Association
NSC - Negotiating Sub-committee
NWSAA - North West School Authorities Association
PDAC - Professional Development Area Conference
PD - Professional Development
PEC - Provincial Executive Council
PRC - Professional Relations Commission
PRIDE - Professional Refinements in Developing Effectiveness
RBA - Representative of the Bargaining Agent
REPC - Regional Economic Policy Committee
SARO - Southern Alberta Regional Office
SASAA - Southern Alberta School Authorities Association
SER - Special Emergency Reserve
TEACH - Teacher Effectiveness And Classroom Handling
TECC - Teacher Education and Certification Committee
TLC - Teaching through Learning Channels
TOC - Table Officers Committee
TPA - Teaching Profession Act
TQC - Teacher Qualifications Committee
TQS - Teacher Qualifications Service
TRF - Teachers' Retirement Fund
TSQB - Teacher Salary Qualifications Board
TW - Teacher Welfare
TWAC - Teacher Welfare Area Conference